

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 NIC-01 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 /075 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ VN: LBASKEW: JCM

5/4/73 EXT. 22038

APPROVED BY EA/ VN: LBASKEW

NEA/ IRN: MAMICHAUD

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R 042306 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, IR, VN

SUBJ: GOI- DRV RELATIONS

REF: STATE 16442, TEHRAN 752

AT EARLIEST APPROPRIATE OCCASION, REQUEST YOU CONVEY TO
GOI FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS:

(A) NORTH VIET- NAM HAS NOT RESPECTED THE AGREEMENT OF
JANUARY 27 AND TO THE CONTRARY HAS VIOLATED IT (INFILTRA-
TION OF MEN AND SUPPLIES, CONTINUED MILITARY OPERATIONS
IN SOUTH VIET- NAM, ETC.) IN A MANNER THAT IS OF GREAT
CONCERN TO U. S. GOVERNMENT.

(B) OUR CONCERN HAS PROMPTED US TO TAKE APPROPRIATE
STEPS, INCLUDING SUSPENSION OF MINE SWEEPING AND OF TALKS
IN JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION AND PREPARATION OF
KISSINGER- THO MEETING, DESIGNED TO PERSUADE NORTH VIET- NAM
TO OBSERVE THE AGREEMENT.

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(C) UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, ACTION TO RECOGNIZE THE DRV, ESPECIALLY BY A STATE WITH CLOSE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP TO THE US, IS MOST LIKELY TO BE VIEWED BY HANOI AS SOURCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT. IT WOULD CERTAINLY NOT BE OF HELP IN OUR CURRENT EFFORTS TO DETER NORTH VIETNAMESE VIOLATIONS.

(D) WE BELIEVE THAT NORTH VIET- NAM CAN BEST BE PERSUADED TO TAKE THE ROAD TO PEACE BY CLEAR INDICATIONS THAT ITS RECOURSE TO BELLIGERENCY IS NOT CONDONED.

(E) IN THE PRESENT CASE, WE BELIEVE THE COURSE OF PEACE WOULD BE BEST SERVED BY W.

3. WHAT WE HAVE IN MIND IS ORAL PRESENTATION ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: NOTING RIVADENEIRA'S APRIL 26 STATEMENT THAT GOE IS PREPARING NEW FISHERIES LAW THAT WILL PROVIDE FOR CATCH LIMITATIONS, WE WOULD POINT OUT THAT SUCH STEPS SEEM CERTAIN TO AGGRAVATE DISPUTE, SINCE ENFORCEMENT WILL RISK DELAYS, HARASSMENT, AND ECONOMIC LOSS TO FISHERMEN FAR EXCEEDING THAT OCCASIONED BY PRESENT GOE PRACTICE OF STOPPING VESSELS AND REQUIRING THEM TO BUY LICENSES AND PAY FINES. WE WOULD STRESS MUTUAL U. S.- ECUADOREAN INTEREST IN SUCCESS OF U. N. LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE, WHICH WILL MEET WITHIN FEW MONTHS TO TAKE UP THIS AND OTHER OCEANS POLICY ISSUES OF INTEREST TO ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY; WE WOULD POINT OUT THAT THERE IS GOOD REASON FOR BOTH U. S. AND ECUADOR TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN THEIR BILATERAL DISPUTE IN ORDER TO PAVE WAY FOR AGREEMENT AT LOS CONFERENCE; AND WE WOULD EXPRESS HOPE THAT GOE WOULD KEEP THESE FACTORS IN MIND IN CONSIDERING REVISIONS TO THE FISHERIES LAW.

4. WE HOPE THAT CLEAR- CUT STATEMENT OF OUR CONCERN WILL ENCOURAGE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO PERSIST IN ITS EFFORTS (REF B) TO MODERATE OR DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW RESTRICTIVE PROVISIONS IN GOE FISHERIES LAW. AT SAME TIME, WE ARE AWARE OF RISK THAT USG INITIATIVE MAY AROUSE NATIONALISTIC SENTIMENTS IN NAVY AND STRENGTHEN ITS DETERMINATION TO PRESS FOR EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF EXCLUSIONIST POLICY. REF D, WHICH REPORTS NAVY SUPPORT FOR DECLARATION ON FREE PASSAGE BEYOND 12 MILES, SUGGESTS NAVY MAY BE MODERATING ITS HARD- LINE STAND ON LOS MATTERS; AND WE WOULD NOT WISH TO DO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT IMPEDE SUCH A SHIFT IN NAVY ATTITUDES.

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5. AS TO ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF APPROACH, REPRESENTATIONS IN QUITO WOULD HAVE ADVANTAGE OF CONVEYING U. S. VIEWS

DIRECTLY TO PARTICIPANTS IN GOE DISCUSSIONS OF NEW
FISHERIES LAW. ON OTHER HAND, RISK OF NEGATIVE GOE
REACTION MIGHT BE LESS IF WE MADE OUR POINT IN WASHINGTON.

6. ACTION REQUESTED. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING EMBASSY'
S VIEWS ON DESIRABILITY AND SITE OF APPROACH OUTLINED
ABOVE. RUSH

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR, VN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE085444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LBASKEW: JCM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730535/aaaahogw.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 16442, 73 TEHRAN 752
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971121
Subject: GOI- DRV RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, IR
To: SAIGON
TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005